



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William L. Elderson
Application No.: 09/888,897 Group Art Unit: 3635
Filed: June 25, 2001 Examiner: Horton

For: BRIDGING SYSTEM FOR OFF-MODULE STUDS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box: 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2004

GROUP 3600

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" label number ER524416559US

Date of Deposit March 23, 2004

I hereby certify that the following attached paper or fee
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT;
PTO FORM-SB/08A and Copies of Refs. Cited-Attached
CHECK PAYABLE TO PTO (For IDS Submission Fee)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box: 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Beth H. Retort

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

NOTE: Each paper must have its own certificate and the "Express Mail" label number as a part thereof or attached thereto. When, as here, the certification is presented on a separate sheet, that sheet must (1) be signed and (2) fully identify and be securely attached to the paper or fee it accompanies. Identification should include the serial number and filing date of the application as well as the type of paper being filed, e.g. complete application, specification and drawings, responses to rejection or refusal, notice of appeal, etc. If the serial number of the application is not known, the identification should include at least the name of the inventor(s) and the title of the invention.

NOTE: The label number need not be placed in each page. It should, however, be placed on the first page of each separate document, such as, a new application, amendment, assignment, and transmittal letter for a fee, along with the certificate of mailing by "Express Mail." Although the label number may be on checks, such a practice is not required. In order not to deface formal drawings it is suggested that the label number be placed on the back of each formal drawing or the drawings be accompanied by a set of informal drawings on which the label number is placed.

(Express Mail Certificate [8-3])



Patent
010214

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 3635
Examiner Horton :

In re application of : BRIDGING SYSTEM
FOR OFF-MODULE STUDS

William L. Elderson :

Serial No. 09/888,897 : Group No. 3600

Filed June 25, 2001 :

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2004

GROUP 3600

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
March 23, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant, in accordance with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, hereby advises the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT". A copy of each reference is enclosed.

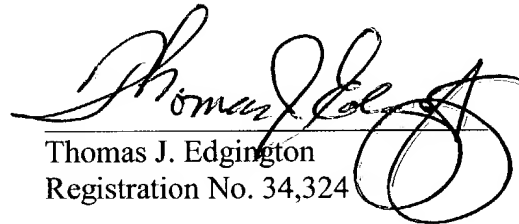
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R § 1.97(c)(2), a check in the amount of \$180 is enclosed. The PTO is authorized to charge Deposit Account 11-1110 for any fee deficiencies associated with this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant submits that the instant Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement fully

complies with the disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, as revised effective March 16, 1992, inasmuch as under the revised rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 there is no requirement for Applicants to explain the relevance of the references cited in an Information Disclosure Statement unless those references are not in the English language.

Applicant notes that although the cited reference may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)."

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Edgington
Registration No. 34,324

Attorney for Applicant

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

(412) 355-8303

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, PI-1142316 v1 0174010-0180